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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

n re Application of

Date: November 12, 2003

Yevgeniy Eugene Shteyn

Examiner: Michael L. Lindinger

Serial No.: 09/900,375

Art Unit: 2841

Confirmation No.: 4295

Filed: July 5, 2001

Atty Docket No.: US018098

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BRIEF BEFORE THE BOARD OF APPEALS

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GROUP 3600

This is an appeal from a Final Rejection dated June 11, 2003. A Notice of

Appeal was received by the Patent Office September 11, 2003.

REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is Philips Electronics North America Corporation.

RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

None.

Page 1 of 14 BRIEF BEFORE THE BOARD OF APPEALS Serial No. 09/900,375

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STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-13 remain in the application and are presented in attached Appendix A.

No claims are allowed.

Claims 1, 5, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by

Hepp et al. ("Hepp") (US Pat. No. 6,449,219).

Claims 2-4, 6-7, and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Hepp in view of Nixon (US Pat. No. 6,033,316).

Claims 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Hepp in view of Narayanaswami (US Pat. No. 6,477,117).

STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

Amendments to claims 1, 3, 12, and 13 were made in Applicant's Response to

the Office Action Dated February 13, 2003. Amendments to claims 1, 12, and 13

were made in Applicants Response to Office Action Dated November 25, 2002.

(The claims in the Appendix contain the amendments.)

The rejections of the claims, for reasons explained below, are clearly erroneous.

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Serial No. 09/900,375

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

The present invention addresses problems inherent in conventional scheduling systems. Conventional scheduling and calendaring systems (paper and PC based) are typically presented in tabular formats with activities scheduled in lines, boxes, or columns. For users, there is not immediate recognition or association of activities with times or dates, as the user must read and interpret the layout and associated scheduling information. The present invention recognizes a need for simpler and quicker recognition and association of activities and times. The inventor appreciated unforeseen advantages in traditional dial faces for timepieces, which were considered by many as outmoded in favor of digital displays, and arrived at the claimed association of time-of-day segments and graphical representations for scheduled activities.

ISSUES

- 1. Whether claims 1, 5, and 8 would have been unpatentable under 35 USC § 103(a) over Hepp (U.S. Patent 6,449,219).
- 2. Whether claims 2-4, 6-7, and 12-13 would have been unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Hepp in view of Nixon (US Pat. No. 6,033,316).

3. Whether claims 9-11 would have been unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Hepp in view of Narayanaswami (US Pat. No. 6,477,117).

GROUPING OF CLAIMS

For the purpose and convenience of this appeal, and without admitting that grouped claims are not independently patentably distinct, Applicant groups the claims as follows:

Claims 1, 5, and 8 stand as a group.

Claims 2-4, 6-7, and 12-13 stand as a group.

Claims 9-11 stand as a group.

ARGUMENT

Three basic criteria must be met to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. In re Vaeck, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991). Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Id. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable

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expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, not in applicant's disclosure. *Id*.

Hepp, the primary reference for the rejection of all claims, is generally directed to a "dial of a timepiece, where an animation of the dial is coupled with the seasonable progress of the time." (Col. 6, lines 12-15; claim 1.) As explained below, Hepp either alone or in combination with other references, does not disclose the claimed invention. Claim 1 is representative of the independent claims for purposes of distinguishing over Hepp:

 An electronic device with a timepiece having a dial face that comprises a display monitor for providing a graphical representation of a scheduled activity associated with a time-of-day segment displayed on the dial face.

The Cited Prior Art Does Not Disclose A Dial Face That Displays A Graphical Representation

In the final Office Action dated June 11, 2003, the Examiner considered character 15 in Hepp as corresponding to a graphical representation of a scheduled activity because it "can take on several tasks, e.g., to remind of jobs to be done or to present the illustrated information or to elaborate on it." (Col. 5, lines 25-31.) The Examiner has not identified any other feature in Hepp as a representation of a scheduled activity.

The plain language of the claims calls for the *dial face* to display the graphical representation of the scheduled activity. Assuming for now that character 15 is

a scheduled activity–and below it is demonstrated that it is not–Hepp does not teach or suggest that the dial face ever displays character 15. On the contrary, Fig. 1 in Hepp and the associated text show that character 15 is spatially separated from the dial face, as explained below in further detail.

The Cited Prior Art Does Not Disclose The Claimed "Segments"

In addition to not showing the graphical representation on the dial face, Hepp does not teach or suggest any association of a scheduled activity with *time-of-day segments* on or about the dial face so that a user can quickly visually perceive from the dial face what activities are scheduled for particular times of the day.

A time-of-day segment is to be interpreted according to the ordinary meaning of "segment", which, in pertinent part, is defined as:

1. a. A part of a plane (or solid) figure separated off by an intersecting straight line (or plane); esp. (more fully segment of a circle) a plane figure contained by a chord and an arc of a circle. Also loosely, an arc of a circle, a sector of a circle. LI6. b. A portion of anything resembling a segment of a circle or sphere. MI7. 2. A piece cut or broken off unevenly, a fragment, rare. LI6.

The New Shorter Oxford English Dictionary, 1993 (Exhibit A)

Nothing in Hepp meets this definition. Character 15 and all other animations shown in Hepp stand apart from the Hepp dial face and are not associated with time-of-day segments. In contrast, the present invention illustrates time-of-day segments 110, 112, 114, 116 for scheduled activities, which are provided by the

dial face. (See Fig.1 and specification page 4, for example.) These are segments within the ordinary sense of the word because they are arcs indicating time slots based on the full circle of the dial face (See specification, p. 4, for example.) It is clearly erroneous for character 15 or any other feature in Hepp to be interpreted as associated with a time-of-day segment under the ordinary meaning of "segment".

Further, the Examiner characterizes the claims as reciting a "scheduled activity 15 relative to a time of day display". (Office Action dated 6/11/03, p. 2.) The Examiner considers reference hands 4 or display 14 in Hepp to be a time-of-day display. However, the claims do not use the wording "relative to"; instead they use the wording "associated with". This is perhaps a subtle but significant point. "All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art." In re Wilson, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (CCPA 1970). In the present case, the Examiner has not given patentable weight to "associated with". The verb "associate" means to combine or join together. (Exhibit A.) The word "relative" suggests a less definite relationship. (See Exhibit A.) The rejections therefore are clearly erroneous because the Examiner has failed to identify in the prior art the claimed association.

The Proposed Modfications Of Hepp Are Impermissible And Undesirable

All claims were rejected based on Hepp as modified with alleged common knowledge of rearranging parts per *In re Japiske* 181 F.2d 1019, 86 USPQ 70

(CCPA 1950) and in view of Nixon (claims 2, 4, 6-7, 12-13) or in view of Narayanaswami (claims 9-11).

In addition to missing elements and arrangement of elements, and to the lack of weight given to the specific language used in the claims, the rejections are clearly erroneous because they are based on proposed modifications of Hepp using supposed common knowledge of rearranging parts that is improper under the governing legal principles.

The Examiner acknowledges that Hepp "does not explicitly teach a time of display [sic] segment located on the dial face." (Office Action dated 6/11/03, p.2.) However, the Examiner asserts, relying on *In re Japiske* 181 F.2d 1019, 86 USPQ 70 (CCPA 1950) that "[i]t would have been obvious to . . . to adapt the dial face of the Hepp reference to change the location of the graphical representation of the scheduled activity with a time-of-day segment from the outside of the dial face to the dial face itself since it has been held that rearranging the parts of the invention involves only routine skill in the art." (Office Action dated 6/11/03, p.3) The Examiner also states that changing one animated representation for another is an obvious step in the art, but it is unclear from the Office Action, p.3, what the Examiner specifically has in mind in making this statement. For example, as noted above, the Examiner acknowledges that nothing in Hepp equates to a "time-of-day segment," and the Examiner has not identified anything but character 15 as a graphical representation of scheduled activity. So it is unclear how the Examiner would arrive at the claimed arrangement of a graphical

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Serial No. 09/900.375

representation and time-of-day segment by merely substituting one animation in Hepp for another.

Significantly, the Examiner's reliance on *In re Japiske* is misplaced. *In re Japiske* has been rejected or not applied in every¹ instance it has been cited to stand for the principle that rearranging parts is within the common knowledge of those skilled in the art. The case, without more, cannot support the rejection. For example, in *In re Chatillion*, et al., 2001 WL 1339886 (Bd.Pat.App & Interf.), the Board stated:

In further support of this rejection, the examiner has relied on In re Japikse, 181 F.2d 1019, 86 USPQ 70 (CCPA 1950), urging that this case sets forth that as a general proposition "it has generally been recognized that the rearrangement of location of parts involves only routine skill in the art". . . .

In this regard, it is clear that the examiner has fallen victim to what our reviewing Court has called 'the insidious effect of a hindsight syndrome wherein that which only the inventor has taught is used against its teacher.' W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc. v. Garlock, Inc., 721 F.2d 1540, 1553, 220 USPQ 303, 313 (Fed. Cir. 1983).

With regard to the examiner's use of a per se rule such as that derived from In re Japikse, 181 F.2d 1019, 86 USPQ 70 (CCPA 1950), we direct the examiner's attention to In re Ochiai, 71 F.3d 1565, 37 USPQ2d 1127 (Fed. Cir. 1995) and In re Brouwer, 77 F.3d 422, 37 USPQ2d 1663 (Fed. Cir. 1996) wherein the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit has held that the claimed invention as a whole must be evaluated under the standards set down in Graham v. John Deere Co., 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), and its progeny, and that the use of per se rules is improper in applying the test for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103 since such rules are inconsistent with the fact-specific analysis of claims and prior

¹ Only once—and that was 50 years ago—has it been given any weight in supporting an argument of obviousness and that was for a different point of law. See *Dalin v. Watson*, 204 F.2d 730, 92 U.S.App.D.C. 270.

art mandated by section 103. Moreover, we also find that we are in agreement with appellants' treatment in the reply brief of the examiner's reliance on the Japikse case.

See also In re Kobayashi et al., 2001 WL 1057541 (Bd.Pat.App & Interf.) ("The examiner relies upon In re Japikse As stated by the Federal Circuit.... 'reliance on per se rules of obviousness is legally incorrect and must cease"); In re Yamamoto, et al., 2002 WL 31234526 (Bd.Pat.App & Interf.) ("Japikse, to the extent it is good law, is inapplicable to the present rejection . . . 'The mere fact that the prior art may be modified in the manner suggested by the Examiner does not make the modification obvious unless the prior art suggested the desirability of the modification."); In re Robles, et al., 1997 WL 1883840 (Bd.Pat.App. & Interf.); In re Brueggemann, 2002 WL 32102466 (Bd.Pat.App & Interf.); In re Allen, et al., 1999 WL 33226488 (Bd.Pat.App & Interf.); In re McCrane, 1998 WL 1736165 (Bd.Pat.App & Interf.); In re Ziegler, et al., 1996 WL 33103147 (Bd.Pat.App & Interf.); In re Nakano, 2002 WL 31321757 (Bd.Pat.App & Interf.); In re Paul, et al., 2002 WL 226977 (Bd.Pat.App & Interf.); In re Fort, 1997 WL 1884308 (Bd.Pat.App & Interf.); In re Mangiagli, WL 1990485 (Bd.Pat.App & Interf.); and In re Afeyan, et al., WL 519771 (Bd.Pat.App & Interf.)

In view of foregoing cases, the Examiner was required to show some teaching or suggestion or motivation in the cited references themselves, as Applicant requested the Examiner to due pursuant to MPEP § 2144.03 and the cases cited

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therein. (See Applicant's Response To Office Action Dated July 23, 2003, pp 8-9). However, no such teaching or suggestion was identified or is to be found.

As for motivation for the combination or knowledge, the mere fact that references can be combined or modified does not render the resulting combination obvious unless the prior art also suggests the desirability of the combination. *In re Mills*, 916 F.2d 680, 16 USPQ2d 1430 (Fed. Cir. 1990). The Examiner's proposed modification of associating character 15, or any other graphical representation of Hepp, with the dial face would in fact be problematic and undesirable. While Hepp discloses a dial face 3, there is no teaching or suggestion that the supposed scheduled activity—character 15—is or can be associated with any segment of the face. This is because Hepp teaches that character 15 has a particular form and function that would be inconsistent with the proposed modification.

Detailed information about character 15 is found in column 8 of Hepp where we learn that character 15 is "Joe", a "comic character". Joe is optional and may give weather forecasts, bet with users about the weather, provide animated entertainment, and escort users through different pages of the device, etc. Hepp specifically teaches the advantages of displaying Joe outside the dial face, close to tree trunk 9. (See Col. 8, lines 1-20.) It would be inconsistent with the foregoing teachings of Joe's contemplated animated functions to provide for the dial face to display Joe in his contemplated form or in a substitute form

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representing a time-of-day segment. As examples, the animations of the character and dial face could obscure or crowd each other, interfering with the functions of each; the comic aspect of Joe would be lost; an association with the dial face would not be suitable for the multitask role of the character, such as which contemplates Joe being displayed apart from the dial face; etc. In short, the multitask role contemplated for character 15 would be hindered if it were associated with a segment on the dial face.

The Prior Art Does Not Disclose A Scheduled Activity, As Claimed

Hepp does not disclose that character 15 is used to represent scheduled activities. The term "scheduled" and the disclosure of the present invention contemplate that a scheduled activity is something entered by or otherwise under the control of the user. In contrast, Hepp only contemplates that character 15 may be used "to remind of jobs to be done." (Col. 5, lines 25-31.) However, a reminder is not necessarily a "scheduled activity". Hepp does not teach that a user has any control over the reminders represented by Joe. Hepp does not indicate what is meant by reminder. One would understand from Joe's appearance with gardening implements that this is a reminder of, for example, Spring and the season of gardening. This kind of reminder is not controlled by the user and therefore cannot be considered a "scheduled activity" in the context of the claims.

In an Advisory Action dated August 25, 2003, the Examiner commented that Hepp et al provides a time-of-day animation in the nature of a moon to sun animation that reads on the present invention. However, the Examiner did not correspond the sun and moon animations to any elements recited in the claims. In any case, the sun and moon animation would not support any rejection of the claims for the same reasons as noted above—there is no teaching that (1) the animations represent scheduled activities; the animations are in the form of segments or associated with the time-of-day display, and/or the animations are provided by the time-of-day display.

The Rejection of Claims 2-4, 6-7, and 12-13 as Obvious Based on Hepp in View of Nixon is Clearly Erroneous

Claims 2-4 and 6-7 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1. Applicant relies on the remarks made above as eliminating Hepp as the primary reference used to reject these claims and claims 12-13. Therefore, the rejections are clearly erroneous for the same reasons. Further, there is no teaching, suggestion, or motivation for the combination of Nixon with Hepp. Deficiencies in Nixon are detailed in Applicant's response to the first Office Action, which are incorporated herein by reference. In particular, Nixon is a rate of progress indication; it does not have disclosure for scheduling of activities; and the Examiner has not identified why the combination would be desirable.

The Rejection of Claims 9-11 as Obvious Based on Hepp in View of Narayanswami is Cl arly Erroneous

Claims 9-11 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1. Applicant relies on the remarks made above as eliminating Hepp as the primary reference used to reject these claims. Therefore the rejection is traversed for the same reasons. Further, there is no teaching, suggestion, or motivation for the combination of Hepp and Narayanaswami. In particular, the Examiner has not identified why the combination would be desirable.

For one or more of the reasons set forth above, all claim rejections are clearly erroneous, and the Board is respectfully requested to reverse the Examiner's rejection of all claims 1-13 and to confirm patentability thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 12, 2003

Bradley M. Ganz Registration No. 347170

email: brad@ganzlaw.com

Correspondence to:

Philips Electronics North America Corporation Intellectual Property & Standards 1109 McKay Drive, Mail Stop SJ 41 San Jose, California 95131

Telephone: (408) 617-7700 Facsimile: (408) 617-4856

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Appendix A

1. An electronic device with a timepiece having a dial face that comprises a display

monitor for providing a graphical representation of a scheduled activity

associated with a time of day segment displayed on the dial face.

2. The device of claim 1, wherein the representation comprising a segment whose

length is associated with the duration of the activity.

3. The device of claim 2, wherein the segment has a graphical attribute associated

with the scheduled activity, the device being capable of associating a different

graphical attribute with a different scheduled activity.

4. The device of claim 2, wherein a location of the representation is representative

of a begin time of the activity.

5. The device of claim 1, wherein the graphical representation is programmable.

6. The device of claim 2, wherein the segment is located along a perimeter of the

dial face.

7. The device of claim 1, wherein the device is capable of providing at least a

further graphical representation of a further scheduled activity.

8. The device of claim 1, comprising a communication component for

communicating with another electronic device.

9. The device of claim 8, wherein the communication uses a short range

communication protocol.

10. The device of claim 9, wherein the other electronic device comprises an

electronic calendar.

11. The device of claim 9, wherein the other electronic device comprises a mobile

phone.

- 12. A method of enabling an electronic device to be programmed, the device having a timepiece with a dial face that comprises a display monitor for providing a graphical representation of a scheduled activity associated with a time of day segment displayed on the dial face, the method comprising communicating data to the device for control of the representation.
- 13. A software application for rendering a dial face of a timepiece on a display monitor, the application being capable of rendering a graphical representation of a scheduled activity on the dial face, a location of the representation on the dial face corresponding to a time slot for a time of day associated with the scheduled activity.

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Il Make or be like. (Earlier as ASSIMILATE ppl a.) †3 v.t. Resemble. L16-M17. 4 v.t. Make like (10; also, w. suggestion of incorporation, as in branch I, with). E17. b Bring into conformity, adapt, to. arch. M17. c Phonol. Make (a sound) more like another in the same or a contiguous word. M19. 5 v.t. Liken, compare, put into the same class. (Foll. by to, with.) arch. E17. 6 v.i. Be or become like, resemble. Foll. by to, (w. suggestion of incorporation, as in branch I above) with arch M18. b Conform w, act in

accordance with arch. L18.

3 J. GAULE The reason that children assimulate their nurses more than their mothers. 4 W. Cowper their nurses more than their mothers. 4 W. Cowper their nurses more than their mothers. their nurses more than their mothers. 4 W. COWPER The downy flakes. . Softly alighting upon all below, Assimilate all objects. DICKENS Observe the dyer's hand, assimilating itself to what it works in. J. S. MILL Whose education and way of life assimilate them with the rich. b S. RICHARDSON This lady. . half-assimilates me to her own virtue. 5 GOLDSMITH Which we can resimilate with no chelle that are brough I. HUTTON. assimilate with no shells that are known. J. HUTTON assimilate with no snells that are known. J. Flutton To assimilate things upon fallacious grounds. R. G. Collingwood They have been assimilating a work of art to an artifact, and the artist's work to the craftsman's. 6 W. Blackstone Which revenues. do always assimilate, or take the same nature, with the antient revenues. LYTTON Whose courage assimilated to their own. b COLERIDGE With whose prejudices and ferocity their unbending virtue forbade them to

assimilative a. (a) of, characterized by, or tending to assimilation; (b) rare that may be or has been assimilated: LME assimilator n. a person who or thing which assimilates MI8. assimilatory a. ASSIMILATIVE (a) M19.

assimilation /əsimi'leif(ə)n/ n. LME. [Fr., or its source L assimilatio(n-), f. as prec.: see -ATION.] 1 Conversion into a similar substance; esp. conversion by a living organism of extraneous material into fluids and tissues identical with its own; the final part of this process, the incorporation of digested nutriment within the system following absorption. LME. b fig. Absorption and incorporation (of ideas, influences, etc.); integration with another (dominant) social, racial, or cultural group. L18. c Psychol. The process whereby a person acquires new ideas through comparing experience with the existing content of the mind. M19. 2 The action of making or becoming like; the state of being like. E17. b The action of conforming to, conformity with arch exc. as passing into sense 1b. L17. c Phonol. The process

passing into sense 10. L17. C r-nonol. 1 ne process of assimilating a sound. M19.

1b Burke Which, by a bland assimilation, incorporated into politics the sentiments which beautify and soften private society. G. H. Lewes Interpretation means mental assimilation. MALCOLM X 'Integration' is called 'assimilation' if white ethnic groups alone are involved. 2c progressive assimilation: see PROGRESSIVE a. reciprocal assimilation: see RECIPROCAL a.

assimilationist n. & a. (a) n. an advocate of racial or cultural integration; (b) adj. of or pertaining to assimilationists or their beliefs: E20.

Assiniboine /a'sınıboın/ n. & a. Also -boin, Assina-, (earlier) †-bouet. Pl. of n. same, -s. L17. [Canad. Fr. f. Ojibwa assini:-pwa:n lit. stone Sioux', f. assin stone + pwa:n (Cree pwa:t) Sioux Indian.] 1 A member of, of or pertaining to, a Siouan Indian people of the Great Plains of N. America. 117. 2 (Of) the language of this people. M19.

†assinico n. var. of ASINEGO.

Assisian /a'si:sian/ a. & n. L19. [f. Assisi (see below) + -AN.] (A native or inhabitant) of the town of Assisi in central Italy; spec. (of) St Francis of Assisi.

assist /a'sist/ n. Li6. [f. the vb.] 1 An act of helping; a help. Now chiefly US. L16. 2 In baseball, ice hockey, etc.: a player's action in helping to put out an opponent, score a goal, etc.; a credit for this. Chiefly N. Amer. L19.

assist /o'sist/ v. LME. [(O)Fr. assister f. L. assistere, f. ad AS-1 + sistere take one's stand.] I Help. 1 v.t. Help (a person in, to do, with, etc.; a person in necessity; an action, process, or result); support, further, promote. LME. 2 v.i. Give help or support (in, two, (arch.) to do, with).

1 STEELE When I assist a friendless person. E. GASKELL May I assist you to potatoes? R. MACAULAY Miss Smith. was assisted from her hammock. J. C. MISS 5 min. was assisted from ner nammock. J. C. Powys Mr. Geard . permitted John to assist him to mount the platform. P. K. KEMP An assisted take-off with rockets. P. H. JOHNSON Her pelvis is very narrow and they will have to assist the birth. T. CAPOTE A young man who assisted him with the management of the farm, assisted passage a journey to another country at a fare reduced by a subsidy, assisted place a place in a fee-paying school for which State financial assistance is given. 2 DRYDEN If Heav'n assist, and Phæbus hear my call. J. A. FROUDE Barlow. whose indiscretion had already assisted to ruin Cromwell. E. F. BENSON She had herself assisted in adding to the tediousness.

II Be present. †3 v.t. Stand by; attend, escort; accompany, join. L15-M17. 4 v.i. Be present (at), either as a spectator (arch.) or as a participant. M16.

3 SHAKES. Temp. The King and Prince at prayers! Let's assist them. R. Crashaw Three vigorous virgins, waiting still behind, Assist the throne of th' iron-sceptred king. 4 THACKERAY The dinner at which we have just assisted.

assister n. a person who assists; an assistant: E16. assistful a. (arch.) helpful E17. †assistor n. (chiefly Law) = ASSISTER LME-L18.

assistance /ə'sıst(ə)ns/ n. LME. [(O)Fr., or med.L assistentia, f. L assistere: see prec., -ANCE, -ENCE.] I1 sing. & tin pl. The action of helping; help, aid, support. LME. †2 A helper; collect. a body of helpers. M16-L17.

1 National Assistance: see NATIONAL a.

II 3 collect. sing. (occas. pl.). Persons present; bystanders. obs. exc. as occas. readopted f. Fr. Li5. 4 Presence, attendance. Long rare. E16.

assistant /ə'sıst(ə)nt/ a. & n. LME. [(O)Fr., or med.L. assistent- pres. ppl stem of assistere: see ASSIST v., -ANT¹, -ENT.] A adj. 1 Helping, auxiliary, subordinate, (10). LME. †2 Standing

by, present, accompanying L15-L17.

1 assistant manager, master, mistress, professor, secretary, etc.

B n. 1 A helper; a supporter; a subordinate worker. LME. †2 A person who is present, a bystander, a participant. L15-M19. 1 editorial assistant, shop assistant, etc.

assistancy n. = ASSISTANTSHIP E17. assistantship n. the position or office of an assistant E17.

assize /ə'sAIZ/ n. & v. obs. exc. Hist. ME. [OFr. assetir (mod. asseoir) sit, settle, assess, f. L assidere: see ASSESS v.] A n. I Uses pertaining to legislation or trial. 1 A decree or edict made by a consultative or legislative body. ME. 2a An ordinance regulating weights, measures, and the price of articles of general consumption; the regulation of weights, measures, and prices in accordance with such an ordinance. ME. b The statutory weight, measure, or price (esp. of bread and ale) ordained; customary or standard. LME. 3 A legal prescriptive proceeding of the nature of an inquest or trial; spec. (sing. & (usu.) in pl.) a periodical session in each county of England and Wales for the administration of civil and criminal justice. ME. b An action decided at such a trial; a writ instituting such a trial. L16. †4 Judgement; sentence. ME-M17. 5 In Scotland: a trial by jury; a jury, a panel. LME. †6 The office of

judge; the action of judging. M-L17.

1 †rent of assize a fixed rent. 3 the great or last assize(s) the Last Judgement.

†11 Other uses. 7 Custom, practice; mode, manner, fashion. ME-L15. 8 Site; situation. LME-L15. 9 Measurement, dimensions, size; measure, extent. LME-M17.

†B v.t. 1 Decree, ordain. LME-L15. 2 Decide, judge; try. LME-L17. 3 Assess. LME-E17. 4 Regulate (weights, measures, prices, etc.) according to an ordinance or standard.

assizer n_{\cdot} = ASSIZOR (b) L16. assizor n_{\cdot} (a) each of those who constituted an assize or inquest; (b) Sc. a member of a jury: ME.

associable /ə'səu[iəb(ə)l, -si-/ a. M16. [Fr., f. associer f. L associare: see ASSOCIATE v., -ABLE.] † 1 Companionable. rare. M16-L17. 2 That may e associated (with) or joined in association. E19.

associate /ə'səuʃiət, -si-/ a. & n. LME. associatus pa. pple, f. as next: see -ATE2, -ATE1.] A adj. 1 Joined in companionship, function, or dignity; allied; concomitant. LME. 2 Sharing in responsibility, function, membership, etc., but with a secondary or subordinate status. E19.

1 C. Marlowe With him is Edmund gone associate?

R. KNOLLES Christ our Sauiour, equal and associate to his Father. POPE Amphinomus survey'd th' associate band. S. JOHNSON They want some associate sounds to make them harmonious. 2 H. F. PRINGLE
The Outlook office where the ex-President was an associate editor. associate professor in N. American universities, (a person of) the academic rank immediately below (full) professor.

B n. 1 A partner, a comrade; a companion; an ally, a confederate, a colleague. M16. 2 A thing placed or found in conjunction with another. MI7. 3 A person who belongs to an association or institution in a secondary or subordinate degree of membership. E19.

1 P. Sidney They persuade the king to make Plangus his associate in government. LD MACAULAY These men, more wretched than their associates who suffered death. W. IRVING His associates soon turned the tide of the battle. D. W. HARDING To her the first necessity was to keep on reasonably good terms with the associates of her everyday life. 2 PAIRED associates.

associateship n. the position or status of an associate E19.

associate /ə'səusieit, -si-/ v. LME. [L associatpa. ppl stem of associare, f. ad AS-1 + socius sharing, allied: see -ATE3.] 1 v.t. Join, unite, ally, (persons; oneself or another with, (arch.) to another or others, in, two a common purpose, action, or condition); declare (oneself) in agreement with. LME. b Elect as an associate member. E19. †2 v.t. Join oneself to (a person); accompany; keep company with. M16-M17. 3 accompany; keep company with sittle and the v.t. a gen. Join, combine, (things together; one thing with, to another or others). Chiefly refl. or in pass. arch. L16. b spec. Connect as an idea (with, †to). M18. †4 v.t. Of things: accompany, join. L16-L17. 5 v.i. Combine for a common bare frequent dealings. purpose; keep company, have frequent dealings, with MI7

1 Swift None but papists are associated against him. D. Hume The troops associating to them all the disorderly people. E. A. Freeman Arnulf associated disorderly people. E. A. PREEMAN AIRMIN associated his son with him in his government. GLADSTONE It is for me. to associate myself with the answer previously given by the Under-Secretary. b SOUTHEY He.. was associated to the royal Academy there. 2 J. MARBECK Therfore shal man leaue father and mother and associate his wife. SHAKES. Rom. & Jul. A barefoot brother . . to associate me, Here in this city visiting the sick. 3 A. Bain The muscles.. act in groups, being sick. 3 A. DAIN The muscles... act in groups, being associated together by the organization of the nervous centres. T. H. HUXLEY This vapour is intimately associated with the other constituents of the atmosphere. b A. S. NEILL The children will leave aumosphere. D. A. S. NEILL The children will leave electric lights on because they do not associate light with electricity bills. JENNIE MELVILLE She associated love and pain. 4 T. Heywood Those torturing pangues That should associate death. 5 BURKE When bad men combine, good men must associate. D. RUNYON As a rule I do not care to associate with coppers, because it arouses criticism from other

associater n. (rare) = ASSOCIATOR E17. associator n. a person who or thing which associates; an associate; a confederate: L17. associatory a. having the quality of associating L19.

association /əsəusi'eis(ə)n, -si-/ n. mi6. [Fr., or med.L associatio(n-), f. as prec.: see -ATION.] 1 The action of joining or uniting for a common purpose; the state of being so joined. M16. 2 A body of people organized for a common purpose; a society. L16. †3 A document setting out the common purpose of a number of people and signed by them. L16-M19. 4 Fellowship, companionship; social intercourse (esp. in prison). M17. 5 The conjoining or uniting of things or persons with another or others; the state of being so conjoined, conjunction. M17. 6 Mental connection between related ideas; an idea, recollection, or feeling mentally connected with another. L17. 7 Ecol. A group of dominant plant species occurring together; a plant community characterized by such a group. E20.

1 R. Coke A solemn oath of association for the restoring of it. Conan Doyle The good Watson had

condition characteristic of a younger landscape. Chiefly as rejuvenated ppl a. E20.

1 I. MURDOCH He felt rejuvenated, renewed, filled

with energy.

rejuvenant a. (rare) that rejuvenates a person or thing L19. rejuvenator n. a thing which rejuvenates a person or thing L19. rejuvenatory a. tending to cause rejuvenation 1.20.

rejuvenation /ri,d3u:vi'neif(a)n/ n. L19. [f. prec. + -ATION.] The action or process of rejuvenating something or of being rejuvenated; Physical Geogr. the development or restoration of features characteristic of a younger landscape, esp. by initiation of a new cycle of erosion.

rejuvenesce /ri,dzu:vi'nes/ v. L19. [Late L rejuvenescere, f. as RE- + L juvenis young: see -ESCE.] 1 v.i. Become young again; spec. in Biol., (of cells) gain fresh vitality. L19. 2 v.t. Biol. Impart fresh vitality to (cells). L19.

rejuvenescence /ri,dzu:vi'nes(ə)ns/ n. M17. [f. as prec. + -ESCENCE.] 1 A physical, mental, or spiritual renewal of youth. M17. 2 Biol. The process by which a vegetative cell transforms itself into a new one. M19.

Also † rejuvenescency n. M17-L18.

rejuvenescent /ri,d3u:vi'nes(ə)nt/ a. M18. [f. as prec. + -ENT.] That rejuvenesces.

rejuvenize /ri'dzu:vinaiz/ v.t. Also -ise. E19. [App. f. REJUVENATE: see -IZE.] Rejuvenate, make young again.

rekindle /ri:'kind(ə)l/ v. li6. [f. re- + kindle v.¹] 1 v.t. Kindle again, set fire to afresh; fig. inflame or rouse anew. L16. 2 v.i. Catch fire or be inflamed again. L16.

1 D. MADDEN She . . tried to rekindle the dying fire.

Times This . . flurry of activity . . rekindled specula-

-rel /rel/ suff. [Repr. OFr. -erel(le) (mod. -ereau).] Forming ns. w. dim. or derog. sense, as cockerel, doggerel, mongrel, scoundrel.

relâche /rəla: [/ n. Pl. pronounced same. M19. [Fr.] A period of rest, an interval; a break from something.

re-laid v. pa. t. & pple of RE-LAY.

relais /rəlɛ/ n. Pl. same. M20. [Fr.] In France, a café, a restaurant, sometimes also providing overnight accommodation.

relance /rəlas/ n. Pl. pronounced same. 120. [Fr.] Polit. A relaunch, a revival, esp. of a policy. relapse /ri'laps, 'ri:laps/ n. & a. LME. [f. the vb, after LAPSE n., or f. (O)Fr. relaps (n. & adj.) f. med. L use as n. of L relapsus pa. pple of relabi RELAPSE v. In branch II directly f. med.L.] A n. II The action or an act of falling back into heresy or wrongdoing; backsliding. LME. 2 A deterioration in a patient's condition after a partial or apparently complete recovery. L16. 3

An act of falling or sinking back again. L19.
2 P. CUTTING Bilar was cheerfully recovering.

Then he had a relapse.

II 4 A person who has fallen back into heresy or wrongdoing. Cf. RELAPSER. Now rare. M16. B adj. Fallen back into a previous condition;

relapsed. rare. M16.

relapse /ri'laps/ v. LME. [L relaps- pa. ppl stem of relabi, f. as RE- + labi slip.] † 1 v.t. Renounce, leave off, (an evil practice). Only in LME. 2 v.i. Fall back into wrongdoing; spec. fall back into heresy after recantation; backslide. (Foll. by into, tw.) L15. 3 v.i. Experience a return of an illness after partial or apparently complete recovery. MIG. 4 v.i. Fall back or sink again into any state, practice, etc. (Foll. by into.) L16. †5 v.t. Cause to relapse. M17-L18.

2 P. L. FERMOR The country was on the point of relapsing into heathen barbarism. 3 A. WILSON At the end of a week she became herself again, only relapsing when Kay's accident was mentioned, relapsing fever an infectious disease characterized by recurrent fever, caused by spirochaetes of the genus Borrelia and transmitted by lice and ticks. 4 P. FITZGERALD She seemed to have relapsed into her old sloth.

relapser n. a person who relapses, esp. into wrongdoing E17.

relata n. pl. of RELATUM.

relate /ri'leit/ n. E17. [L relatus use as n. of pa. pple of referre: see next, -ATE1. Cf. med. L relata (neut. pl.) relative terms.] 1 Logic. = RELATUM

n. 1. Now rare or obs. E17. †2 = RELATION 5a. Only in M17

relate /ri'leit/ v. L15. [L relat- pa. ppl stem of referre REFER v.: see -ATE³.] I v.t. † 1 In pass. Be supported or thrust between. rare. Only in L15. 2 Give an account of (an action, event, fact, †a person); recount, narrate, tell. M16. †3 Bring back, restore. rare (Spenser). Only in L16. 4 Bring (a thing or person) into relation with; establish a connection between. Foll. by to, with.

LI7.
2 T. HARDY He related . . all that he had heard. L GARFIELD He went on to relate exploits . . he'd told of many times before. 4 HOR. WALPOLE The following paragraph, relating to Cromwell. W. R. GROVE Volta enabled us definitely to relate the forces of

chemistry and electricity.

II v.i. 5 Law. Of a decision etc.: apply from a date earlier than that on which it was made, be retrospectively valid. L16. 6 Have reference 10, concern. E17. †7 Discourse; give an account. E17-M18. 8a Have some connection with, be connected 10. M17. b Feel emotionally or sympathetically involved or connected. (Foll. by

6 A. BELL Most of the surviving anecdotes relate to his later years. 8a Pope The critic Eye . . examines bit by bit: How parts relate to parts. b Guardian Married people can still relate. Underground Grammarian Teach children to relate to the Eskimo experience by chewing blubber. R. D. LAING The ways we love, hate, and generally relate to each other.

relata'bility n. ability to be related M20. relatable a. able to be related Eig. relater n. a narrator; a

historian: E17.

related /ri'leitid/ a. E17. [f. prec. + -ED1.] 1 Narrated, recited. rare. E17. 2 Having relation; having mutual relation; connected. (Foll. by to, with.) Also as 2nd elem. of comb. M17. 3 Of a person: connected by blood or marriage. (Foll. by to.) E18.

2 Petroleum Economist Oil-related employment will increase as more companies enter the . market. G. GORDON He had sited an airport and related paraphernalia close to the castle. 3 J. T. STORY She was distantly related to the Mussolini family.

relatedness n. M19.

relation /ri'leif(a)n/ n. LME. [(O)Fr., or L relatio(n-), f. as RELATE v.: see -ATION.] 1 The action of giving an account of something, narration, report; an instance of this, a narrative, an account. LME. b Law An account of a complaint or claim made for the Attorney-General by a relator; the laying of an information (cf. INFORMATION 4b). M17. 2 The existence or effect of a connection, correspondence, or contrast between things; the particular way in which one thing stands in connection with another; any connection or association conceivable as naturally existing between things. LME. b Logic. A constituent of a proposition or propositional function that predicates a connection of two or more terms. L19. 3 a The position which one person holds with another by means of social or other mutual connections; the connection of people by circumstances, feelings, etc. LME. b In pl. The social contacts or ways of contact by which a person is brought into and kept in touch with another. L17. c In pl. The various ways by which a country, State, etc., maintains political or economic contact with another. L18. d euphem. In pl. Sexual intercourse, a sexual relationship. E20. 4 Law. a Treatment of a decision etc. as applying to a date earlier than that on which it was made; retrospective validity. Chiefly in have relation back. L15. †b The regarding of two things, esp. times, as legally identical. L16-M18. 5a A person related to another by blood or marriage; a relative. Freq. in pl. E16. b Connection between people arising out of the ties of blood or marriage; kinship. M17.

2 E. J. HOWARD She seemed to bear no relation to the gawky...schoolgirl he'd dimly remembered. R. SCRUTON The relation of wealth to social and political well-being. Mind The most obvious relation events can enter into is that of one event being later ... than another. 3a E. A. FREEMAN The relation of every man to his lord. b S. BUTLER No . . close relations had been maintained between the sisters for some years. I.

MURDOCH My relations with women always followed MURDOCH MY ICHARDIS MINISTER C. H. KISSINGER US-Certain disastrous. pattern. c. H. KISSINGER US-Soviet relations were . in for a long chilly period. 5a L. M. MONTGOMERY I've never had an aunt or any L. M. MONTGOMERY I'VE INVESTIGATE TO the distress of her relation at all. A. PRYCE-JONES To the distress of her relations, Aunt May became a Catholic. b S. HAYWARD The relation is as real as that of husband and wife.

Phrases: be no relation be unconnected by blood or marriage despite having the same sumame. external relation Philos. a connection between two things which is not intrinsic to the identity of the first thing. false relation: see FALSE a. have relation back: see sense 4a above, have relation to have reference or allusion to. HUMAN relations. INDUSTRIAL relations. in relation to as regards. internal relation Philos. a connection between two things which is intrinsic to the identity of the first thing. labour relations: see LABOUR n. make relation to make reference or allusion to. poor relation see POOR a. public relations: see PUBLIC a. & n. with relation to = in relation to above.

relationary a. relational M19. relationless a. having no relations; without relation; E19.

relational /ri'leif(a)n(a)l/ a. & n. MI7. [f. prec. -AL1.] A adj. Of, pertaining to, or characterized by relation; having the function of relating one thing to another, M17.

relational database Computing database structured to store items of information in accordance with recognized relations between them. relational grammar a kind of generative grammar based on grammatical relations rather than syntactic structures. relational word Ling. a word expressing relation between other words; a preposition; a conjunction.

B n. Ling. A relational word. M20. relatio'nality n. M19. relationally adv. M19.

doctrine that relations have a real existence.

relationism /ri'leif(ə)niz(ə)m/ n. rare. Mig. [f. as prec. + -ISM.] Philos. The doctrine of the relativity of knowledge; relativism. Also, the

relationist /ri'leis(a)nist/ n. M19. [f. as prec. + -IST.] Chiefly Philos. A person who maintains a theory based on a relation between ideas. Also, a person who holds that space and time are not entities but relations between entities.

relationship /ri'leif(ə)nfip/ n. mi8. [f. as prec. + -ship.] The state or fact of being related; connection, an association, spec. an emotional (esp. sexual) association between two people.

relative /'relativ/ a. & n. LME. [(O)Fr. relatif, -ive or late L relativus having reference or relation, f. as RELATE v.: see -IVE.] A adj. 1 Gram. (Of a word, esp. a pronoun) relating or referring to an expressed or implied antecedent, and attaching a subordinate clause to it; (of a clause) attached to an antecedent by a relative word. LME. 2 Arising from or determined by relation to something else or to each other; comparative. Also, existing only by relation to something else; not absolute or independent. LME. 3a Having mutual relationship; related to or connected with each other. L16. b Mus. That is the major or minor key having the same key signature as a minor or major key. E19. C Corresponding; spec. in Mil., (of a service rank) corresponding in grade to another in a different service. M19. 4 Related to the subject under discussion; pertinent, relevant. E17. 5 Of worship: offered indirectly by means of or through an image. M17. 6 Having or standing in a relation to something else; correspondent or proportionate to. M17. 7 Chiefly Philos. Of a term etc.: involving or implying relation; depending for meaning or significance on some relationship of things or people. L17. 8 Having application or reference to; relating to. M18. 9 advb. In relation or proportion to. L18.

2 E. WAUGH Discussed the relative advantages of tulips and asparagus. G. W. KNIGHT The evil is not relative, but absolute. A. BROOKNER Age is relative. you're as old as you feel. 3a N. HAWTHORNE Several different, yet relative designs. 4 SOUTHEY All relative matter...should go in the form of supplementary notes. 6 A. KOESTLER Positions of the planets relative to the sun. 7 J. S. MILL A name is relative when . . its signification cannot be explained but by mentioning another. 8 L. M. MONTGOMERY She said nothing to

him, relative to the affair.

Special collocations: relative address Computing an address which is defined with respect to another address. relative atomic mass the ratio of the

For other words beginning with re- see the entry for re-



average mass of an atom of an element to 1/12 the mass rerage mass of an atom. 12; abbrev. r.a.m.; also called an atom of carbon-12; abbrev. r.a.m.; also called amic weight. relative density the ratio of the density of a substance to that of a standard substance (usu of a substance to that of a stantiard substance (usu, water for a liquid or solid, air for a gas); also called water for a numu or some, an for a gas); also called specific gravity. relative deprivation Sociol. social deprivation relative to the living standards of other deprivation of one's class or resident deprivation relative class or social group. relative members of one's class or social group. relative mulecular mass the ratio of the HUMIDITY. relative molecular mass the ratio of the HUMIDITY. remaye indiceutar mass the ratio of the average mass of a molecule or entity of a substance to average mass of an atom of carbon-12; also called 1/13 Inc IIIass of all District of Caroun-12, also called molecular weight, relative permeability: see PERMEABILITY molecular weight. relative permeability 2. relative PERMITTIVITY. relative pitch (a) Mus. the 2. retainer respect to another; the ability to pitch of a note with respect to another; the ability to distinguish this; (b) Phones. the pitch of a speech distinguish this; (b) runner, the price of a spectra sound with respect to another, relative sexuality sound a phenomenon in which the individual or gamete Biol. a phenomenon may act as either male or formula of a simple organism may act as either male or female according to whether it is more or less male than the one it interacts with.

one it merats with the body of the body of

relatival /rela'tArv(a)|/ a. (chiefly Gram.) of or pertaining to a relative M19. relatively adv. (a) in a relative manner, in relation to something else; (b) with reference to something: LME. relativeness n. L17.

relativise v. var. of RELATIVIZE.

relativism /ˈrɛlətɪvɪz(ə)m/ n. M19. [f. prec. + -ISM.] Chiefly *Philos*. The doctrine or theory that knowledge, truth, morality, etc., are relative and not absolute.

cultural relativism the theory that there are no objective standards by which to evaluate a culture, and that a culture can only be understood in terms of its own values or customs; the practice of studying a culture from this viewpoint. ethical relativism the theory that there are no universal or objective ethical standards, and that each culture develops its own. historical relativism the theory that there can be no objective standard of historical truth, as the interpretation of data will be affected by subjective factors.

relativist /'relativist/ n. & a. M19. [f. as prec. + -ist.] A n. 1 Philos. A person who holds the doctrine of relativism. M19. 2 Physics. A student or proponent of the theory of relativity. E20. B attrib. or as adj. Of or pertaining to relativism; of or pertaining to the theory of relativity. E20.

relativistic /relativistik/ a. L19. [f. prec. + -1C.] 1 Philos. Of, pertaining to, or characterized by relativism. L19. 2 Physics. a Pertaining to or based on the theory of relativity. E20. b Characterized by or designating circumstances in which discrepancies between the predictions of the theory of relativity and of Newtonian mechanics or classical electromagnetism become significant, esp. those involving speeds approaching that of light or large gravitational potentials. M20.

2b Discovery The principles of thermodynamics as they apply in a relativistic universe. relativistically adv. M20.

relativitist /relativitist/ n. M20. [f. RELATIVITY + -IST.] Physics = RELATIVIST n. 2.

relativity /relativiti/ n. Mig. [f. RELATIVE + -ITY.] 1 The fact or condition of being relative, relativeness. Mig. 2 Physics The dependence of observations on the relative motion of the observer and the observed object; the branch of physics that deals with the description of space and time allowing for this. Lig.

general (theory of) relativity a theory extending the special theory of relativity to systems accelerating with respect to one another, covering gravitation and the curvature of space-time. special (theory of) relativity a theory based on the principles that all uniform rectilinear motion is relative and that light has the same speed in a vacuum for all observers, regarding space-time as a four-dimensional continuum, and modifying previous conceptions of geometry.

relativize /'rclativAiz/ v.t. Also -ise. M20. [f. RELATIVE + -IZE.] 1 Physics. Treat according to the principles of the theory of relativity. M20. 2

Chiefly Philos. & Gram. Make relative; make relative to or dependent on something else. M20. relativization n. E20. relativizer n. a person who or thing which relativizes something; spec. (Ling.) a relative word or form: M20.

relator /ri'leitə/ n. L16. [L, f. as RELATE v.: see -OR.] 1 = RELATER. L16. 2 Law. A person who recounts a complaint or claim for an information by the Attorney-General (cf. RELATION 1b); Hist. a person who filed an application for a quo warranto or mandamus, or on whose behalf this was done. E17. 3 Gram. An element of a sentence, esp. a preposition, which relates one phrase to another. M20.

relatum /II'lo:təm, -'le:təm/ n. Pl. -ta /-tə/. L19. [L, neut. pa. pple of referre REFER.] 1 Logic. Each of two or more objects between which a relation subsists. Cf. REFERENT n. 3. L19. 2 Gram. The object of a prepositional phrase. rare. M20.

relaunch /'ri:lo:n(t)]/ n. L20. [f. RE- + LAUNCH n.¹] A renewed launch, esp. of a business or new product.

relaunch /ri:'lo:n(t)]/ v.t. & i. M18. [f. RE- + LAUNCH v.] Launch again.

relax /n'laks/ n. E17. [f. the vb.] (A) relaxation.

relax /ri'laks/ a. rare. E17. [f. the vb, after LAX a.] Lax, lacking in strictness.

relax /ri'laks/ v. LME. [L relaxare, f. as RE- + laxus LAX a.] I v.t. 1 ta Make less compact or dense; loosen or open up by separation of parts. LME-L17. b Make (a part of the body) less stiff or rigid by reducing muscle tension; make (a muscle) less tense; make loose or slack; spec. (chiefly Entomol.) make (a specimen) flexible prior to setting. E17. c Diminish the force or tension of; esp. loosen (one's grasp). L18. 2 Free or discharge (a person) from restraint, legal process, or penalty (spec. that of diligence or outlawry). Also, dismiss (a legal process). Sc. obs. exc. Hist. LME. b Hist. [Sp. relaxar.] Of the Inquisition: hand over (a heretic) for execution. MI9. 3a Make less severe, strict, or exacting; make less formal; mitigate, tone down. Also, make less tense or anxious. M17. b Make less zealous or forceful. rare. M17. c refl. Take recreation; rest. rare. M18. d Allow (one's efforts, attention, etc.) to slacken or diminish.

1b J. TYNDALL The heat relaxed my muscles. c JOHN BROOKE In the last years. the late King had relaxed his hold on the reins. 3a J. CARY Even in . . intimate relations she did not relax her dignity. J. HERRIOT The iron discipline was relaxed. . to let the Yuletide spirit run free. d J. GALSWORTHY She never moved from his room, never relaxed her noiseless vigilance.

II v.i. 4 Become loose or slack; become less tense or rigid. Also foll. by from, into. LME. 5 Abate in degree or force. rare. Et8. 6a Become less severe, strict, or exacting. M18. b Of a more open or friendly manner. Also (freq. in imper.), become less tense or anxious. M19. 7 Cease one's efforts; take recreation; rest. Also foll. by from, into. M18. 8 Chiefly Physics. Return towards a state of equilibrium. M20.

4 DICKENS His features would relax into a look of fondness. H. ROTH His body relaxed, yielding to the rhythm. 5 T. COLLINS The hard swelling. . seemed to have relaxed a little. 6b A. CHRISTIE She had been strung up. never relaxing for a moment. Woman Relax, darling. Our problem is soon to be solved. 7 C. P. Snow They relaxed into their long and restful evening. Rage Us tender souls at the office like nothing better than to relax. . in front of the gogglebox.

better than to relax.. in front of the gogglebox. relaxed a. freed from restraint; diminished in strictness, firmness, etc.; esp. at ease, unperturbed, free from tension: LME. relaxedly adv. E19. relaxedness n. M19. relaxer n. L17. relaxity n. (rare) relaxedness, the state of being relaxed L18.

relaxant /ri'laks(2)nt/ a. & n. L18. [L relaxantpres. ppl stem of relaxare: see prec., -ANT¹.] A adj. Causing or distinguished by relaxation. L18. B n. A drug or practice that reduces tension and produces relaxation, esp. of muscles. M19.

relaxation /ri:lak'setf(3)n/ n. LME. [L relaxatio(n-), f. relaxati- pa. ppl stem of relaxare: see RELAX v., -ATION.] 1a Partial (or, formerly, complete) remission of a penalty, burden, duty, etc. Formerly also, the document granting this.

LME. b Release from a legal penalty, spec. that of diligence or outlawry. Sc. obs. exc. Hist. M16. c Release from captivity. E17. d Hist. The process of handing over a heretic to the Inquisition for judgement and execution. Cf. RELAX v. 2b. E19. 2a Release from mental or physical tension, esp. by recreation or rest. M16. b Physiol. The loss of tension in a part of the body, spec. in a muscle when it ceases to contract; the state of a resting muscle. E17. 3 Diminution or reduction of strictness or severity. E17. 4 Abatement of force or intensity. L17. 5 Chiefly Physics. The gradual return of a system towards equilibrium; the reduction of stress caused by gradual plastic deformation in material held at constant strain. Freq. attrib. M19. 6 Engin. & Math. A method of solving a set of simultaneous equations by guessing a solution and successively modifying it to accord with whichever equation or constraint is currently

least closely satisfied. Freq. attrib. M20.

3 D. M. Thomas I mixed a little painting with my poetry, just as relaxation. P. Dally The beneficial effects of opium are relaxation and tranquillity. 4 F. SPALDING Some penalties...disappeared and there was a slight relaxation of the rules. 5 C. Pebody Stuart complains...of his relaxation of energy.

Comb.: relaxation oscillator Electr.: in which sharp, sometimes aperiodic oscillations result from the rapid discharge of a capacitor or inductance; relaxation time Physics the time taken for a system to return to a state of equilibrium; spec. (when the process of return is exponential) the time taken for the deviation from equilibrium to be reduced by a factor e (approx. 2.718).

relaxative /Π'laksətıv/ a. rare. E17. [f. RELAX v. after LAXATIVE.] Tending to relax; of the nature of relaxation. rare.

relaxin /ri'laksin/ n. M20. [f. RELAX v. + -IN¹.] Physiol. A hormone secreted by the placenta that causes the cervix to dilate and prepares the uterus for the action of oxytocin during labour.

relay /'ri:lei/ n. LME. [OFr. relai (mod. relais), f. relayer: see next.] 1 Hunting. A set of fresh hounds posted to replace a tired set in a chase for a deer, spec. a set released after the first hounds have come up. Cf. VAUNTLAY. Now rare or obs. LME. 2a A set of fresh horses posted at various stages along a route to replace a tired set. E17. b The place where such a set is posted. E18. c A series of motor vehicles intended to cover a prescribed route; an operation involving this. M20. d Bridge. In full relay bid. A low bid designed to invite the bidder's partner to describe his or her hand. M20. 3a A set of people, esp. workers, appointed to relieve others or to operate in shifts. E19. b In full relay race. A race of team-members in competing sequence; spec. one performed by teams of usu. four in which each member in turn covers part of the distance, and a baton is often passed from one member to the next. L19. 4a Orig., a device used in telegraphy to enable a weak signal to initiate a stronger one, for onward transmission or to actuate a recording instrument; a repeater. Now, any electrical device, usu. incorporating an electromagnet, whereby a current or signal in one circuit can open or close another circuit. MI9. b An installation or satellite which receives, amplifies, and retransmits a transmission or broadcast. Freq. attrib. E20. c A message or broadcast which has been relayed. E20.

2a H. Allen They galloped south along the post, pausing only for relays. 3a HANNAH MORE Relays of musicians ... to sing the whole Psalter. b *Times* The main hopes .. lie in the men's four by 100 and four by 400 metres relays.

Comb.: relay bid: see sense 1d above; relay race: see sense 3b above; relay rack a rack on which relays are mounted, esp. in a telephone exchange; relay station a radio station that serves as a relay; relay valve Engin. a valve in which fluid flow is controlled by a diaphragm actuated by a weep derived from the main

relay /n'lei, 'n'.lei/ v.¹ LME. [f. the n. or f. (O)Fr. relayer, f. as RE- + laier, ult. repr. L laxare: see LEASE n.³] † 1 v.t. & i. Hunting. Release (fresh hounds) on the track of a deer; hunt (a deer) with relays. Only in LME. 2 v.t.

For other words beginning with re- see the entry for re-

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vacillate in policy, emotion, etc., vary or swing vaculate and repeatedly in fortune etc. E18. 2 v.t. rapidly and reported in a see-saw motion. M18.

GEO. ELIOT She was seesawing on the elder bough. M. GEE A girl who see-sawed between .. wild gaiety and .. total seclusion. Financial Times The dollar see-sawed wildly yesterday, first dropping .. and later sawed wildly rising sharply.

see-saw /'siss:/ int., n., a., & adv. Also as one or (as int.) two wds. M17. [Redupl. of saw v.1, or (as mill, site of the same as part of a rhythmical refrain, app. orig. by sawyers but now usu by children, esp. to accompany alternating movements in games.

Nursery rhyme: See saw, Margery Daw.

B n. 1 An up-and-down or to-and-fro motion. E18. 2 fig. A situation changing rapidly and repeatedly; a contest in which the advantage repeatedly changes from one side to the other. E18. b Whist. = cross-ruff (a) s.v. CROSS-. M18. 3 A rlank balanced on a central support, on each end of which people (usu. children) sit and swing up and down by pushing the ground alternately with their feet. E19.

1 K. WHITE The delicious see-saw of a post-chaise. 2 A. F. DOUGLAS-HOME There were . two alternatives , and there was the usual see-saw of argument. 3 R. DAIL The swings and the see-saws and the high slide. C adj. & adv. Moving or progressing up and down or backwards and forwards like a see-saw

(lit. & fig.). M18.

Speedway Star The see-saw match eventually turned in their favour.

Phrases: go see-saw move with a see-saw motion, vacillate, alternate. play (at) see-saw engage in the game or amusement of sitting on a see-saw and swinging up and down.

seesee /'sissi:/ n. Also see-see, sisi. M19. [Imit., f. the noise of the wings.] A small sand partridge, Ammoperdix griseogularis, of SW Asia. Also seesee partridge.

seethe /si:ð/ n. E19. [f. the vb.] Seething or churning of waves etc.; intense commotion or agitation.

seethe /si:0/ v. Pa. t. seethed, †sod; pa. pple seethed, †sod, †sodden. See also sod a., sodden a.¹ [OE seopan = OFris. siatha, OHG siodan (Du. zieden, sieden), ON sjóða, f. Gmc.] 1 v.t. Cook (food etc.) by boiling or stewing, heat in liquid. arch. OE. † b Digest (food). OE-E17. 2 v.i. Of a liquid, pot, etc.: be subjected to boiling or stewing; boil, bubble up; transf. foam, froth; churn, bubble; be intensely hot. Freq. as seething ppl a. ME. 3 v.t. Steep, saturate, or soak in a liquid; reduce or soften by boiling, soaking, etc. Chiefly as seethed ppl a. Cf. sodden a.1 L16. 4 v.i. (Of a person etc.) be in a state of agitation or turmoil, esp. with (freq. unexpressed) anger; (of a crowd, place, etc.) move or be filled with confused hectic activity. (Foll. by with.) Freq. as

seething ppl a. L16.

2 J. Conrad The river .. seethed in frothy streaks. Country Living Never . . leave cabbage to seethe for long. 4 G. ORWELL A mob of people seethed, shouting and jostling. G. HUNTINGTON Milan station was seething with people. A. STORR She was seething with resentment.

†seether n. a person engaged in boiling food or water; rare a utensil for boiling: ME-E18. seethingly adv. in a seething manner L19.

see-through /'si:θru:/ a. & n. Also (informal, chiefly commercial) -thru. M20. [f. SEE v. + THROUGH prep. & adv.] A adj. That can be seen through, transparent; having spaces allowing the passage of light; (esp. of a garment or fabric) diaphanous, translucent. M20.

B. Norman Some slinky girl spy in a see-through

nightdress.

B n. 1 The quality of allowing the passage of light; the extent to which it is possible to see clearly through something; unimpeded vision. M20. 2 A see-through fabric or garment. M20.

Sefer Torah /seifo 'to:ro, 'tou-/ n. Also Sepher Torah. Pl. Sifrei Torah /sifrei/, Siphrei Torah. M17. [Heb. sēper törāh book of (the) Law. Cf. Torah.] Judaism. A scroll containing the Torah or Pentateuch.

Sefton /'seft(a)n/ n. L19. [f. the Earl of Sefton.] Chiefly Hist. (In full Sefton landau) a kind of landau or horse-drawn carriage. Also, a kind of

seg /seg/ n.1 dial. L15. [ON sigg hard skin.] A callus, a hard patch of skin, esp. on the hand.

seg /seg/ n.2 dial. E17. [Origin unkn.] An animal castrated when fully grown.

seg /seg/ n.3 M20. [Abbrev. of SEGMENT n.] A metal stud fixed to the toe or heel of a shoe or boot to strengthen or protect it from wear. Freq.

seg /seg/ n. 4 M20. [Abbrev.] 1 = segregationist n. Cf. outseg. US colloq. M20. 2 = segregation 1(g). slang (chiefly US). L20.

seggie n. (US colloq.) = SEG n. I M20.

seg n.5 see SEDGE.

segar n. var of CIGAR.

Seger /'zeigə/ n. Also s-. Lig. [H. A. Seger (1839-93), Ger. ceramics technologist.] Seger cone, each of a series of small numbered cones or pyramids made of different mixtures of refractory material and flux so that they melt at different specific temperatures, used to indicate the temperature inside a kiln etc.

segholate a. & n. var. of segolate.

segment /'segm(ə)nt/ n. L16. [L segmentum, f. secare cut: see -MENT.] la Geom. A part of a plane (or solid) figure separated off by an intersecting straight line (or plane); esp. (more fully segment of a circle) a plane figure contained by a chord and an arc of a circle. Also loosely, an arc of a circle, a sector of a circle, L16, b A portion of anything resembling a segment of a circle or sphere. M17. 2 A piece cut or broken off unevenly, a fragment. rare. L16. 3a Geom. A finite part of a line between two points; a division of a line. E17. b Acoustics. Each of the portions into which the length of a vibrating string, wire, etc., is divided by the nodes. M19. 4 Bot. Each of the portions into which a leaf or other plant organ is divided by long clefts or incisions. E18. 5 Each of the parts into which a thing is or may be divided; a sharply cut or delineated piece; a division, a section. M18. b Anthropol. Any lower level division of a social structure, esp. one based on the same principles as higher order units. M20. c Ling. A unit forming part of a continuum of speech or text; an isolable unit in a phonological or syntactic system. M20. d Broadcasting. A division of the day's broadcasting time, a time slot. Also, a separate broadcast item, esp. within a programme. Orig. US. M20. e Computing. A functional subdivision of a module. M20. 6

Anat., Zool. & Embryol. Each of the series of similar anatomical units of which the body and its appendages are composed in various animals, esp. arthropods and annelids; a somite, a metamere. Also, each of a series of functional or embryological divisions of a vertebrate body or limb, esp. of the spinal column, musculature, or central nervous system. MIQ.

la segment of a sphere a solid figure bounded by a portion of the surface of a sphere and an intersecting plane, or two parallel planes. 4 PERIANTH segment. 5 Times Every segment of national outlay must be judged. D. Profumo He offered the boy two segments

segment /seg/ment, 'segm(a)nt/ v. Mig. [f. the n.] 1 v.t. Divide into segments; subject to or produce by a process of segmentation. M19. 2 v.i. Become divided into segments; spec. (a) Biol. undergo a process of segmentation; (b) Anthropol. (of a lineage group or clan) divide into smaller autonomous branches within a larger social structure. L19.
segmenta bility n. ability to be segmented M20.

seg'mentable a. able to be segmented M20.

segmental /seg'ment(a)l/ a. EI9. [f. SEGMENT n. + -AL1.] 1 a Archit. Designating or of the form of an arch, the curved part of which forms a shallow arc of a circle, less than a semicircle. EI9. b Having the form of a segment (or, loosely, of an arc) of a circle. MI9. 2 Of, pertaining to, or composed of segments or divisions. M19. b Ling. Of, pertaining to, or designating the division of speech or (less commonly) text into segments. Freq. in segmental phoneme, a consonant or phoneme, which can occur as one of the units in a sequence of such phonemes. M20. segmentally adv. LIQ.

segmentalize /seg'ment(a)laiz/ v.t. Also -ise. M20. [f. prec. + -IZE.] Divide into segments; spec. (Ling.) represent (a grammatical feature) as a distinct segment of speech or text.

segmentali'zation n. division into segments M20. segmentalizer n. M20.

segmentary /seg'ment(a)ri/ a. M19. [f. segment n. + -ARY1. Cf. Fr. segmentaire.] 1 Of the nature of or resembling a segment or an arc of a circle, segmental. M19. 2 Pertaining to segments or divisions, composed of segments. LIQ.

segmentation /segm(ə)n'teif(ə)n/ n. M17. [f. SEGMENT v. + -ATION.] The action or process of division into segments; the state or manner of being segmented; spec. in Biol., (a) cell division by internal partitioning, esp. the cleavage of an ovum; (b) division into somites or metameric

In isolated use bef. MIQ.

segmented /'segm(ə)ntid, seg'mentid/ a. M19. [f. SEGMENT v. + -ED¹.] 1 Consisting of or divided into segments; spec. (a) Zool. formed of a longitudinal series of similar parts; (b) Bot. (of a leaf) divided into segments or lobes. M19. 2 Embryol. Of a cell, esp. an ovum: divided or split up by segmentation into cells. L19. 3 Archaeol. Of a prehistoric gallery grave: divided into sections or segments; having compartments.

segmenter /seg'mentə/ n. E20. [f. as prec. + -ER¹.] Zool. A fully developed sporozoan schizont ready to divide into a number of merozoites.

sego /'si:gəu/ n. US. Pl. -os. M19. [Prob. Ute Indian.] A mariposa lily, Calochortus nuttallii, with an edible bulb. Also sego lily.

segolate /'segolot/ a. & n. Also segholate, (earlier) †-ated. E19. [mod.L seg(h)olatus, f. Heb. segol a vowel-point (corresp. to English e) and its sound.] Heb. Gram. A adj. Orig., (of a disyllabic noun) having the vowel segol in both syllables. Now freq. (gen.), designating the class of disyllabic nouns having an unaccented short vowel (usu. segāl) in the last syllable. E19. B n. A segolate noun. M19.

segoon n. var. of SACCOON.

segreant /'segrient/ a. M16. [Origin uncertain: perh. f. Fr. s'érigeant lit. 'erecting itself'.] Her. Of a griffin: with wings extended; rampant. Usu postpositive.

segregable /'segrigab(a)l/ a. E20. [f. L segregare SEGREGATE v.: see -ABLE.] That may be

segregant /segrig(a)nt/ a. & n. MI7. [L segregant- pres. ppl stem of segregare: see SEGREGATE v., -ANT¹.] A adj. †1 Separated, divided. rare. Only in M17. 2 Genetics. Having or designating a genotype derived by segregation, esp. one different from that of either parent. M20. B n. Genetics. A segregant organism. M20.

segregate /'segrigat/ a. & n. LME. [f. as next: see -ATE¹, -ATE².] A adj. 1 Separated, set apart, isolated. Now rare. LME. 2 spec. in Biol. Separated (wholly or partially) from the parent or from one another, not aggregated. Also, (of a hybrid) having a phenotype chiefly resembling that of one parent. L18. B n. 1 Bot. A species distinguished, freq. on the basis of minute characters, within an aggregate or collective species. L19. 2 Metall. A consituent of an alloy which becomes segregated when the alloy solidifies on cooling. E20. 3 A group, a class, a category, M20.

segregate /'segrigeit/ v. M16. [L segregat- pa. ppl stem of segregare separate from the flock, f. as SE- + greg- grex flock: see -ATE3.] 1 v.t. Separate (a person, a class of persons, etc.) from the main body or a particular class of people; set

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a cat, a: arm, a bed, a: her, 1 sit, i cosy, i: see, o hot, a: saw, a run, o put, u: too, a ago, al my, ao how, el day, ao no, a: hair, la near, al boy, da poor, ala tire, ada sour